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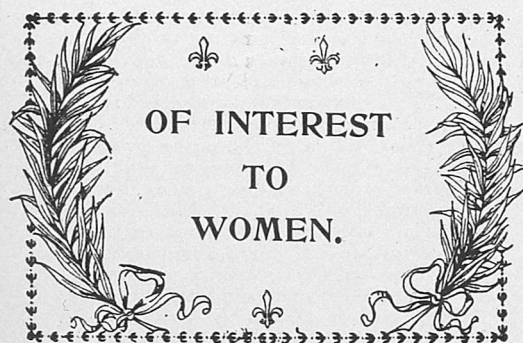
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BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

CANDLES as a table decoration still hold their own. At a recent dinner given by a society woman, the scheme for lighting the table was the ordinary wax candle. It was of creamy hue. The candlestick was tall, and in tints of pink and white, over which was a paper shade in delicate tones of salmon. These candles served as corner decorations, and were a charming addition to this tasteful board. To make them more attractive, each candle rested on a small square mat of jewel embroidery in blue and gold, which gave a superb finish to the whole.

A JAPANESE lily, planted in a glass or decorative blue bowl, is a pretty ornamental device for an informal luncheon. This plant grows very fast, has tall green leaves, and is put in a bed of smooth pebbles, which are emerged in water, and needs but little care to make it a charming table adornment at all times, for any function.

AMONG the new embroideries for spring table wear, the fruit scheme is taking precedence of all others. The design includes buds, blossoms, leaves and fruit, all in raised work in their natural colors. The edge is deeply scalloped, with a figure set in like drawn work in white silk, in different stitches in the shape of a palm leaf, stars, crescents, and the like. This new method is a great improvement on the simple scallop formerly used. Many of these fruit schemes are excellent as corner decorations for centrepieces.

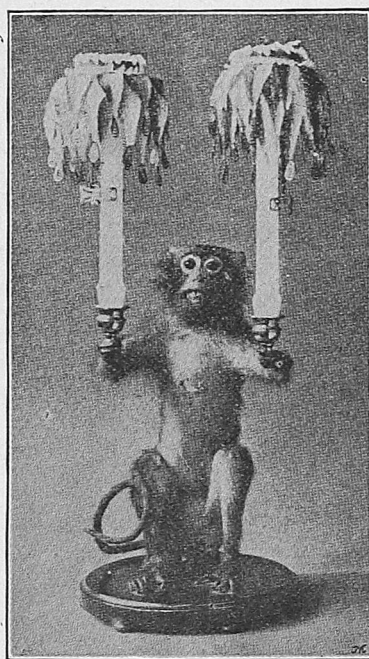
ANOTHER popular embroidery, is a piece of fine linen, which is long and narrow in effect, and made to do duty as a tea cloth. It is outlined in white silk, in some good conventional design, and here and there, are these same open spaces in big leaves, which are very striking as a whole, giving to the device a special tone of purity, that for table decoration is considered the fashionable charm.

CHARMING looking carriage-ropes for children, can be made of these cheap Japanese novelties in pink, blue or yellow. They are generally embroidered in gilt, with silk effects in roses, leaves and the like. When wadded and lined with the same tint as the outside, they are serviceable for early spring wear, and, with a silk pillow, present a very good show for the richer baby coverings seen always on fine days.

RUGS of deep rich reds, should be given as floor coverings, making a warm atmosphere for a room enjoyable particularly in the winter time.

DESIGNS of silver, in salt-spoons, are more varied than usual this year. The spade device is very popular, while the Dutch spoon, with gold bowl and twisted handle, is very beautiful in effect. All these small pieces of silver and gold for table wear, should be without much ornamentation, their charm lying in simple lines, to bring out the beauty of the pattern, as well as showing in all its plainness, the brilliancy of the metal.

TO MAKE a decorative salad for the table, for a formal luncheon, lettuce and cauliflower combined, are considered superior in a way, and particularly so if served on dark blue and gold china. A full set for this course, is an oval dish of mazarine blue, with gilt ornamentation, and a dozen plates to match. This same design can be used for a fruit or simple dessert.



PET MONKEY, HOLDING CANDELABRA.

THE bit of green for every-day meals as a decoration, is a very acceptable scheme for the eye. And a simple bouquet-holder, which holds a single rose is quite as much adornment as a mass of flowers. Even the Princess of Wales believes in this charming idea. A bunch of hyacinths, in the season, is all that is ordered for the domestic table for royalty, and it is only on great occasions that a mass of floral garniture is considered necessary.

CHAFING-dishes made of brass, nickel, and sometimes silver, with stands ornamented in various graceful designs, are now used at the formal dinner. They accompany the *pièce de résistance* and keep hot a dish of mushrooms, or a sauce which will flavor the meat. For theatre suppers they are invaluable for the cooking of omelettes; oysters in three or four different ways; cheese and the like. To those people who like light housekeeping, and have simple breakfasts, they are a boon, and nowadays the home woman who values her cuisine, takes good care that the chafing-dish is always on hand.

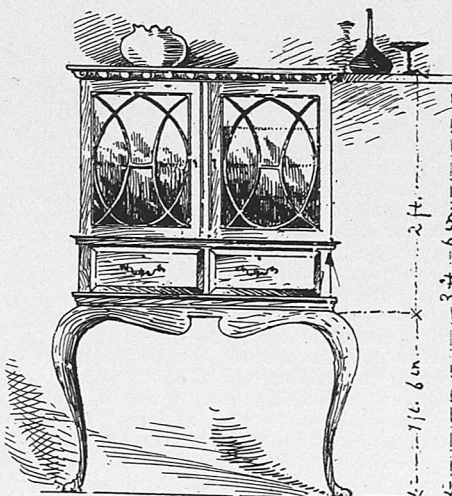
PIECES of tapestry of India make, look well as a background for a small studio. Against these, there should be hung effective figure subjects. To arrange these Oriental bits in artistic taste, place them at equal distances apart, so they will not conflict with each other. In some of these places the door acts as a good focus for the whole, and by covering the plain wood with a hanging in choice colors, and giving a centre ornamentation in brass or copper, it will be a striking scheme at all times.

TO BRING out these Eastern materials, the wall paper should be of a neutral tint; care being taken, that all tints should blend, and the furniture be one of simple design. The making of a room, depends on the tints given, the tones selected, and the atmosphere acquired. A little money will go a long way with good taste where furnishing is concerned.

NEVER draw the curtains in your bedroom, particularly during the daytime on a sunny day. Sunlight is one of the factors essential to health, and a room wherein the sun shines, is pretty sure to be one that will invigorate the body during sleeping hours.

LIBRARIES are furnished this season in tones of red, with great magnificence, in some of our well-known houses. The *fleur de lis* in raised gold, is splendid in effect, particularly with mahogany furniture. Portieres and draperies can be employed in different textures, to suit the harmony of walls and floors. With these rooms, black and white prints simply framed, and placed close together, are excellent as a wall decoration; these combined with some fine pieces of faience will quite set off the whole.

WATER colors of flowers and fruit, should be framed in simple white bands of wood, or narrow gilt, with a mat in light grey, or dark cream, to enhance their colors. Yellow blotting paper makes a capital mat for prints of strong coloring, but requires the opening to be evenly cut, to make it acceptable.



A WINE LOCKER. DESIGNED BY EDWARD DEWSON.

A WARM HOUSE IN WINTER.

WARMTH in winter is a great matter, and we all wish to know how the necessary amount required for health and comfort can be obtained, at a minimum of expense. I do not purpose here to enter into elaborate details of how you can warm your house by means of hot-air pipes, etc., but am going only to deal of ordinary stoves and open fireplaces.

Remember, first of all, that the temperature of your rooms should be suited to the use to which you put them. If a room is only used as a sitting-room or for sedentary occupations, then 60° to 63° is the right temperature. How are you to know if your rooms are right in this respect? Well, for a few pence you can purchase a thermometer, which, by the way, should find a place in every household. Hang it up somewhere about the middle of the room, not near the fire where warmth may affect it, nor close to a door or window where cold can influence it. A room that is to be used for study should never be warmed with hot-air, an open fireplace is the best.

If manual labor is to go on in a room, then 60° is quite warm enough; and if the work is very hard, then even less is sufficient.

TEMPERATURE OF BED-ROOMS.—Sixty degrees is warm enough, unless there is illness and the sufferer remains in his bed or room. In cases of bronchitis, etc., always ask the doctor what temperature the room should be kept at night and day.

Children and old people require more warmth than others. Some people are very much afraid of spending a little extra money on coals and time in the needful work entailed by a fire. If they can afford it at all, they might bear in mind that proper warmth will keep people in health, and that is in itself a clear economy. Properly warmed rooms and a bit of fire for granny in her room when she goes to bed will be a saving in the long run. Stoves give off a great deal of hot dry air, and unless you are very careful to keep the air of the room moistened they become very oppressive.

OPEN COAL FIRES are the best way for heating our rooms, and most suited to dark winter days. They do not warm the entire room equally; and this is an advantage, as it enables the inmates to select the cooler or hotter parts of it to sit in according to their inclination. Only the grate must be well placed. A medical writer says:—

"The ordinary system of warming by open fireplaces is very wasteful, the greater part of the heat going up the chimneys. A

good firegrate ought either to project well into the room, or to be so constructed that the greater part of the heat shall be reflected into the room. The Galton grate is an example of the former plan, and the plan of Count Rumford the basis of the latter. A fireplace built of fire-clay at the back and sides, with iron bars in front, gives out a good heat, if its shape is a good one. To ensure this, the back part of the fireplace should be one-third the width of the front; and do not let the depth exceed the width of the back. This shape ensures that all the heat will be reflected into the room, and not to the opposite side of the grate, and so up the chimney."



"FAIRY LAND," WALL-PAPER DESIGN. BY C. F. A. VOYSEY.

(See Article, Page 149)

VENTILATION.—We must not omit to say that an open fire is one of the best means of ventilation. Sir Douglas Galton says:—"To ensure comfort, it is essential to combine warmth in the walls and floors, with cool air to breathe, as, for instance, air at a temperature of 54° to 64°. Radiant heat is therefore within limits, the pleasantest kind of heat and the largest proportion of heat from an open fire is due to radiation. No doubt there are other means of obtaining

radiant heat to warm our rooms, such as gas fires, but the gas fire does not produce the same heat in the chimney as a coal fire, and therefore its effect as a ventilating agent is less . . . A room 20 feet square, and 12 feet high, contains 4800 cubic feet of space. In such a room, with a good fire, the air would be removed four or five times an hour with a moderate draught in the chimney, and six or eight times with a blazing fire."

A warm house depends upon other things than fire and stoves. Paraffin stoves, by the way, are very nice for warming a room, and can be had now at moderate rates.

PREVENTION OF DRAUGHTS.—To keep a house warm take care the windows and doors shut well. In many houses they do not, and in winter a cold draught comes in, which is anything but pleasant. This can be guarded against by sandbags, which can be lifted on and off, and by nailing some of the tubing down, which can so easily be obtained at ironmongers'. This in no way prevents the opening and shutting of windows, for, of course, the latter should be thrown open, and the rooms to which they belong thoroughly aired every day. Folding screens are very useful for shutting off draughts, and one advantage of them is that they can so easily be moved from one room to another. You can often get a screen cheap at a store, because the paper on it is torn. This can be covered with some cheap sateen or leather paper, and be turned into a very useful article.

In conclusion, remember that though in winter and at chilly seasons a certain amount of artificial heat is needed to keep your house warm, and yourself in a healthy condition, that over-heating is as bad, if not worse, than cold.

A CUT glass bowl, in which there is a bunch of mignonette, is considered the latest of delicate table decorations. To enhance its beauty, it is placed in a centre cloth of white linen, elaborately embroidered in white silk, with dull green leaves.

LITERARY NOTE.

THE MONTH, a new magazine published by The Critic Co., New York City, is an illustrated monthly devoted to literature, art and life. It is edited by the Gilders, whose editorial work on *The Critic* is so well known, and is particularly handsome and well gotten up; the typographical work is all that could be looked for in any magazine and is a credit to their enterprise and push. Their contributors include many brilliant *littérateurs*.